GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3205
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2001
LOSSES SUFFERED BY AIR INDIA ON HAJ FLIGHTS
VINAY KUMAR SORAKE

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Air India suffered a loss of over Rs. 68.00 crores on operation of Haj chartered flights during the period 1993 to 1999;

(b) whether these flights were operated on `No profit, No loss` basis;

(c) whether as on January 1999 Rs. 565 and 496 crores were overdue to Air India from the Government of India and the Central Haj Committee respectively;

(d) whether these overdue accounts have since been cleared;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN)

(a): Yes, Sir. The loss of Rs.68.00 crores was towards various expenses which include `Catering on ground` and `give-aways` to the haj pilgrim as a gesture of goodwill, loss of interest on delayed payments and an ad-hoc concession of Rs.1.00 crore given to Haj Committee. This amount could not be recovered by Air India as there was no provision for that.
(b): Yes, Sir.
(c): The amount outstanding from the Government as on January, 1999 towards Haj-1998 was Rs.5.65 crores and not Rs.565 crores. Similarly the amount due from the Haj Committee as on January, 1999 was Rs.4.96 crores and not Rs.496 crores.
(d)and (e) : Yes, Sir. The amount of Rs.5.65 crores due from the Government towards Haj-1997, 1998 and 1999 has been settled. The amount of Rs.4.96 crores due from the Haj Committee towards Haj-1995, 1996, 1997 and 1998, has also been settled.
(f) : Does not arise.